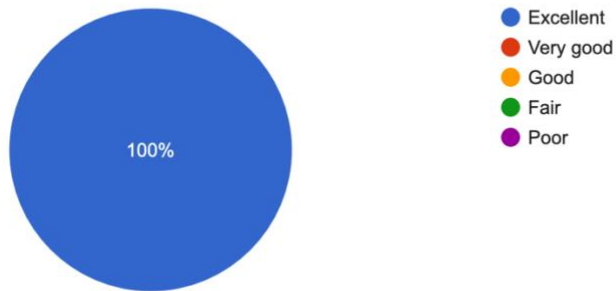**Course Evaluations for PSCI-999-003: "American Political Behavior"**

Course description: **A graduate seminar on American political behavior offered in the Spring of 2020 at the University of Pennsylvania in preparation for comprehensive exams**

Overall course rating:

Overall, how would you rate this course?
5 responses

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

100%

Course materials:

How useful where the course materials?
5 responses

- Extremely useful
- Very useful
- Somewhat useful
- Not so useful
- Not at all useful

100%

How clearly did your instructor explain course materials?
5 responses

- Extremely clearly
- Very clearly
- Somewhat clearly
- Not so clearly
- Not at all clearly

100%

Course Evaluations for PSCI-999-003: "American Political Behavior"

Response to student questions:

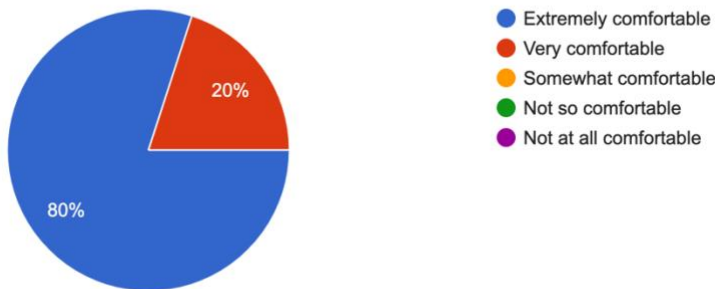How well did your instructor answer student questions?
5 responses

- ● Extremely well
- ● Very well
- ● Somewhat well
- ● Not so well
- ● Not at all well

100%

Comfort voicing opinion in class:

How comfortable did you feel voicing your opinion in class?
5 responses

- ● Extremely comfortable
- ● Very comfortable
- ● Somewhat comfortable
- ● Not so comfortable
- ● Not at all comfortable

20%

80%

Exam preparation:

How helpful was the course in your preparation for comprehensive exams?
5 responses

- ● Extremely helpful
- ● Very helpful
- ● Somewhat helpful
- ● Not so helpful
- ● Not at all helpful

100%

Course Evaluations for PSCI-999-003: "American Political Behavior"

Quality of the instructor:

Please comment on the quality of the instructor. To what extent did the instructor raise challenging questions, clarify course content, and encourage participation? Was the instructor responsive to students questions, comments, and criticisms?

Responses

Tanika was an excellent instructor and I am very grateful for all her hard work. She went above and beyond in preparing for class -- her lesson plans and notes were incredibly helpful as we prepare for the Comps. She is an expert in taking the pulse of discussion and helping to orient student comments in a way that keeps the conversation going. She is also exorbitantly flexible and receptive to student comments, and she even hosted an additional session to help us review.
Tanika was a GREAT instructor. She always made sure that every student got to say as much as they wanted to, and allowed room for any sort of questions we might have. She created a very comfortable classroom environment and moderated discussion in a way that was both productive and free-flowing.
Tanika is one of the strongest instructors that I've encountered as a graduate student. She always came to class prepared with questions and activities to aid our comprehension of difficult readings. Tanika was incredibly response to all questions and comments from students. She was able to elicit the participation of each student through encouragement and genuine engagement with our comments.
Tanika is hands-down the best explainer of political science I have ever met. I am a political theorist and did not study political science as an undergraduate, so my coursework has introduced me to a lot of new materials and methodologies. Tanika makes them seem straight-forward when they are, and spends time explaining when they aren't. She really knows the material and is truly talented at clearly synthesizing texts. Although at first I was disappointed that we didn't have a full course for Behavior, I think this course was just as helpful if not more so than meeting every week with faculty. She is also really generous with her time and helping us find other helpful study guides and materials. I could not be happier with the course and the instructor!
I am grateful to have had Tanika's guidance for this course. Her knowledge of the material and its relevance was extremely helpful as I, and I'm sure others too, would not have been able to piece those bits by ourselves in the way Tanika did. The structure of the course was also efficient while allowing room for discussion beyond what the texts covered - these were greatly appreciated. Tanika was responsive to our questions and ensured that everything we did was relevant to our own development within the particular sub-fields we covered.

Course Evaluations for PSCI-999-003: "American Political Behavior"

Quality of the course:

Please comment on the overall quality of the course. What worked particularly well and what could be improved?

Responses

This was an incredibly helpful course. I especially appreciated hearing about Tanika's research in the context of our class, as it made the study prep meaningful and more tangible. I don't really have any suggestions since I think Tanika did an incredible job with this course.
I have no real criticisms for the course, I found the course extremely helpful and had a great experience. Tanika did a great job of selecting materials that were salient and manageable. She was generous both with her insights and advice in class, and helpful resources outside of class. This was no doubt one of the best courses I've taken during my PhD!
Each week we would discuss several of the classic and contemporary pieces for topics within political behavior. I really appreciated how the readings were all connected so well. We were able to trace the development of the field easily due to the course organization. I cannot think of anyway the course could be improved, the syllabus was engaging, helpful for comps, and manageable.
The only other thing was having reading materials available--I was really worried about getting all the books from the library. We ended up having them available online but it seemed really unwieldy at the beginning.
Overall, I'm extremely satisfied with how our class was run and what I was able to learn. In some regards, I wish more canon grad courses were run in a similar fashion as the way Tanika ran our seminar